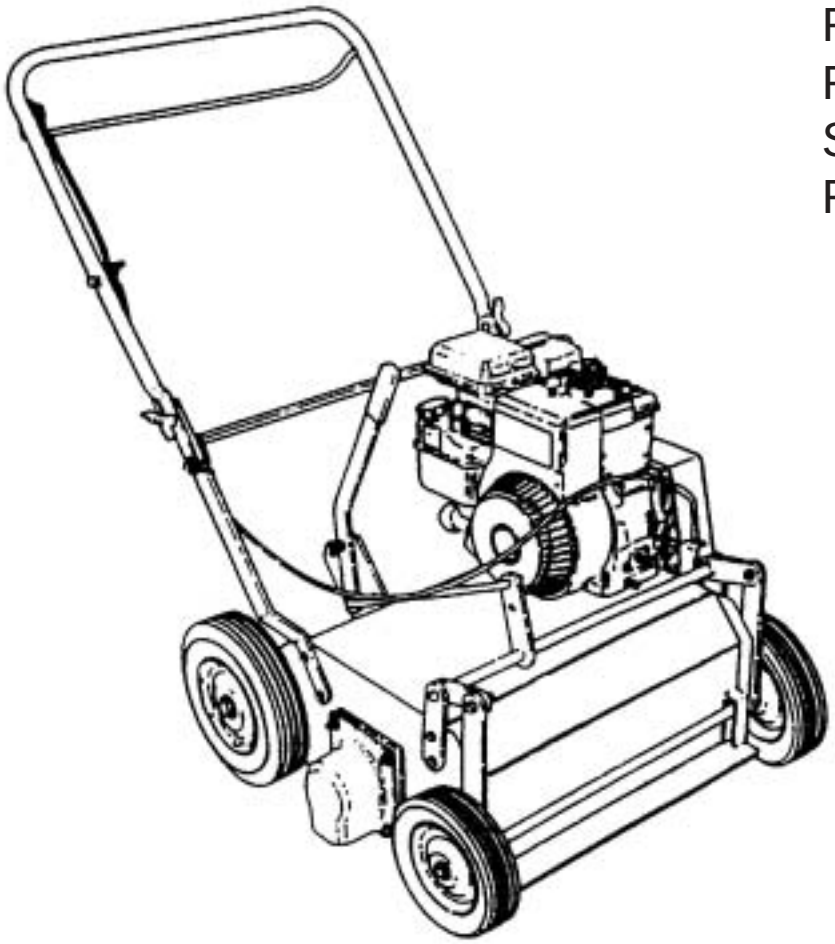
YAZOO/KEES

Safety and Operator's Manual for

MODELS: RBSIC050
RBSIT550
RBSIT551
SBSIC050
RHON050



Professional Quality Lawn Care Equipment since 1945

Thank you for buying a **YAZOO/KEES!** Before operating your new power rake, read, understand and follow the important safety instructions and the other instructions contained in this manual. Lawnmowers and all power equipment, can be potentially dangerous if used improperly. **SAFETY REQUIRES GOOD JUDGEMENT, CAREFUL USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS AND COMMON SENSE.**

MANUAL No. 100431 REV. 07 (02/19/02) Printed in U.S.A.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: Failure to comply with the following instructions may result in serious injury to the operator or other persons. The owner of the machine must understand these instructions, and must allow only persons who understand these instructions to operate the machine. Each person operating the machine must be of sound mind and body and must not be under the influence of any substance which might impair vision, dexterity or judgment. If you have any questions about your machine which your dealer cannot answer to your satisfaction , call or write YAZOO / KEES POWER EQUIPMENT, Beatrice, NE 68310 (Phone 402-223-2391)

TRAINING

1. Read this manual carefully and question your dealer if something is not clear.Should the dealer be unable or unavailable to answer to your satisfaction, write or call our factory. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and proper use of the equipment.

2. DO NOT allow children in yard or area when machine is operated.

3. DO NOT allow pre-teenage children to operate unit.

4. Allow only responsible teenagers with mature judgment to operate machine and only under close supervision.

5. Keep the area clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets.

PREPARATION

1. Never operate machine without proper guards, covers, safety switches and devices in place and properly functioning. Inspect to determine that these safety devices are installed properly, are in good repair, and operate properly. If the condition of these devices are questionable, they must be repaired or replaced before using the machine.

2. Thoroughly inspect the area where machine is to be used and remove all stones, sticks, wire, and other debris. Also note the location of holes, stumps, and other possible hazards.

3. Do not operate the machine when barefoot or wearing open shoes.Always wear substantial footwear and long pants.

4. Fill gasoline tank before starting the engine. Use only an approved gasoline container. Do not smoke near open gasoline container. Do not fill gasoline tank indoors or when engine is running. Allow engine to cool off for at least 10 minutes before refueling. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting engine. Do not run engine indoors.

5. Never attempt to make a depth adjustment while engine is running.

6. Operate only in daylight or in good artificial light.

7. Never operate machine in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing; keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run.

OPERATION

1. Do not change engine governor settings or overspeed the engine.

2. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of discharge area while engine is running.

3. Stop engine when crossing gravel drives, walks, roads, or under any condition where thrown objects might be a hazard.

4. After striking a foreign object or if machine vibrates abnormally, stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug. Inspect the machine for any damage and repair the damage.

5. Stop the engine whenever you leave the operating position for any reason, including clearing debris, inspecting, or making adjustments.

6. Rake across slopes, never up and down. Use caution when changing direction on slopes. Do not rake very steep slopes, or areas where stability or safety might be in doubt.

7. Do not rake water-soaked lawns. This will pull turf off the surface. Cut tall grass before raking.

MAINTENANCE

1. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to keep mower in safe operating condition.

2. Never store machine with gas in the tank inside a building where fumes can reach an open flame or spark. Allow engine to cool before storing in an enclosure.

3. To reduce fire hazard, keep machine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.

4. Have your machine inspected and serviced each year by an authorized Yazoo/ Kees dealer. Determine if any additional devices are available which might upgrade the safety of your machine.

5. Use only authentic Yazoo/Kees replacement parts to insure the safety of your machine is maintained.

⚠ WARNING ⚠

THE ENGINE EXHAUST FROM THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS CHEMICALS KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE CANCER, BIRTH DEFECTS OR OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM.

FAMILIARIZATION

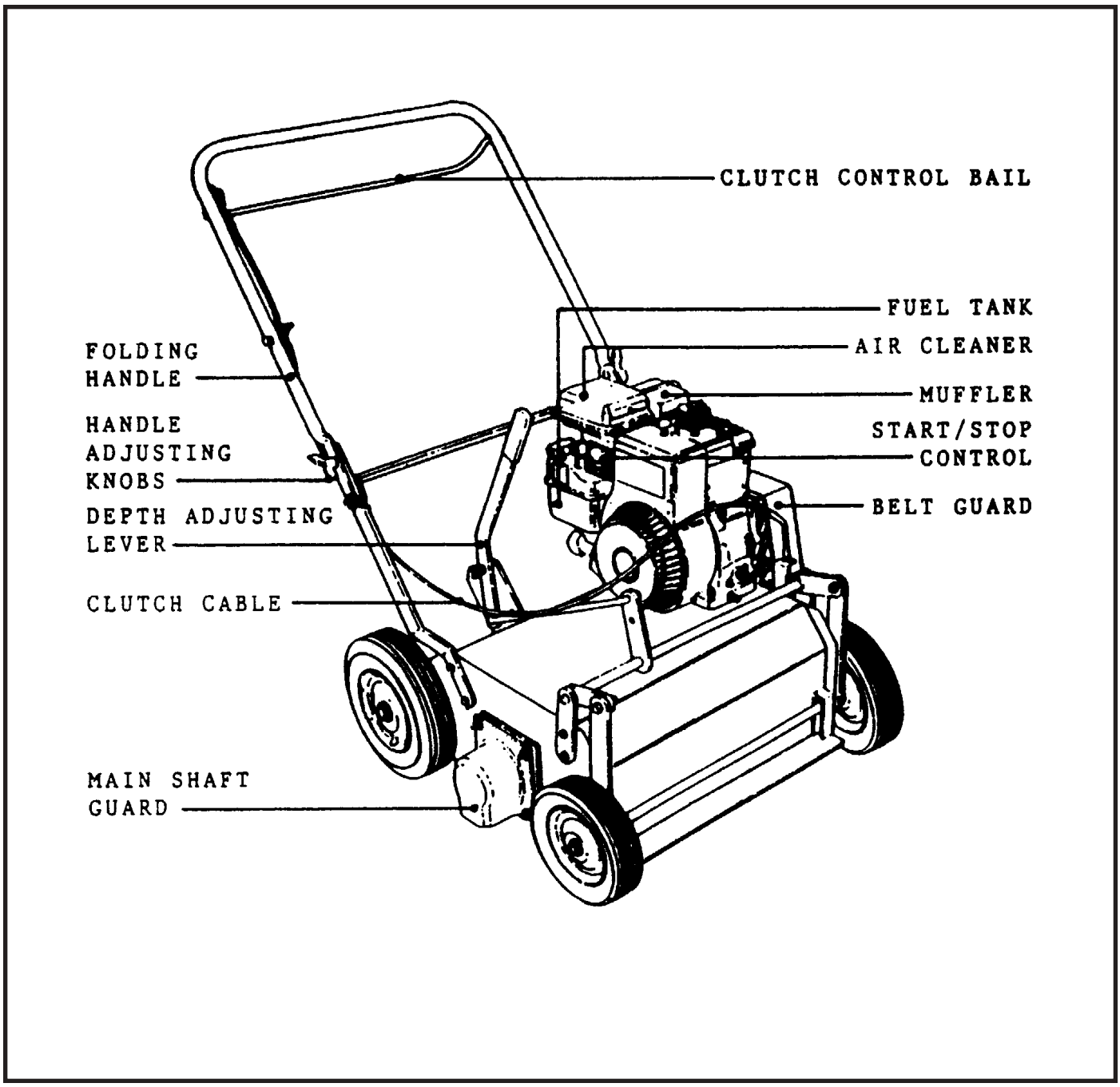


Figure 1

NOMENCLATURE

This manual has been prepared for the operators of the Yazoo/Kees Power Rake, Model RBSIC050 and Slicer, Model SBSIC050. Its purpose, aside from recommending operating instructions and routine service requirements, is to promote safety through the use of accepted operating practices. READ, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW the safety and operating instructions herein before attempting any work with the machine.

The nomenclature drawing above (Figure 1) shows the essential parts of the Yazoo/Kees Power Rake/Slicer. It is recommended that all operators of this equipment become thoroughly familiar with the controls, parts and operation of this machine before operating. Specific details involving the engine are found in the seperate engine owner's manual. Study these manuals before operating and keep both handy for future reference.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE OPERATING:
Be thoroughly familiar with all controls and how to use them before operating the Dethatcher/Slicer. Make the following checks and perform the service as required before each start up.

PRE-START CHECK LIST
CHECK ENGINE OIL and bring level up to full. (Refer to engine manual for oil specifications).

CHECK AIR CLEANER and service according to instructions in Engine Manual.

FILL FUEL TANK where fumes will be safely dissipated. Refer to Engine Manual for fuel specifications.

CHECK DETHATCHER OR SLICER SHAFT ASSEMBLY to make sure it is free of dirt and other debris.

CHECK EXTERNAL SURFACES and remove any dirt and dust accumulation.

CHECK GUARDS to make sure all are in proper position and securely tightened.

STARTING-STOPPING
Know beforehand how to stop the engine and rotation of the DETHATCHER or SLICER shaft in preparation for possible emergencies.

The engine of the DETHATCHER/SLICER is stopped by pulling the engine THROTTLE CONTROL to the rear to "STOP". See Figure 2

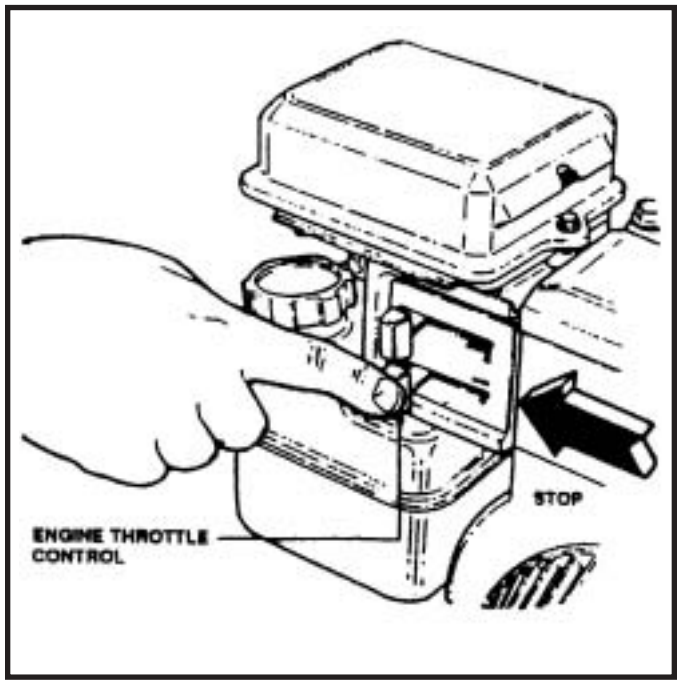


Figure 2

Shaft rotation is stopped by releasing the CLUTCH CONTROL BAIL. See Figure 3.

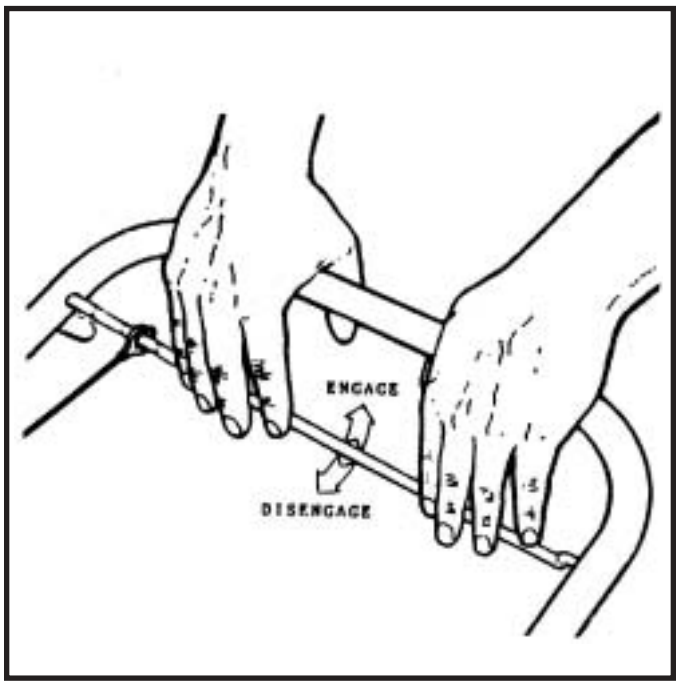


Figure 3

OPERATE ENGINE AS FOLLOWS:

STEP 1:

Move HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT LEVER to "TRANSPORT" position. (This insures that the Shaft Assembly is clear of the ground/pavement should accidental engagement of CLUTCH CONTROL BAIL occur.) See Figure 4.

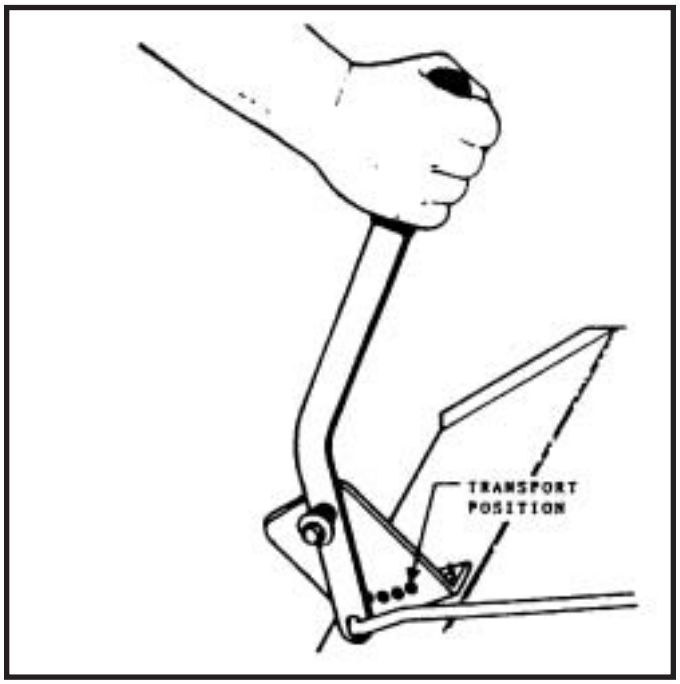


Figure 4

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 2:
On cold starts, move the CHOKE CONTROL on the engine forward into “CHOKE" position. See Figure 5.

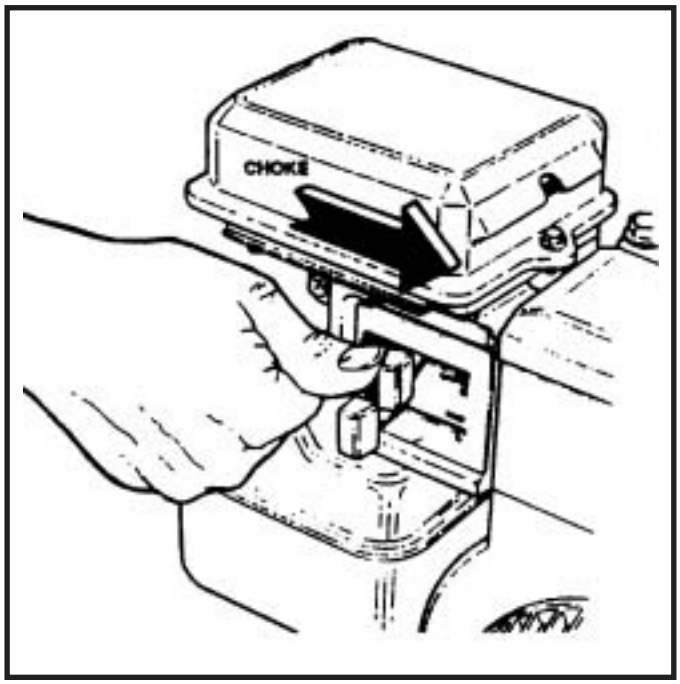


Figure 5

STEP 3:
Move THROTTLE CONTROL to the “RUN” position.

STEP 4:
While remaining on right side of unit, place foot on top of right wheel, hold handle bar and pull ROPE STARTER on engine in smooth, steady motion until engine starts. To prolong the life of the rope, guide the STARTER handle back to the engine rather than allowing it to snap back .

STEP 5:
Allow brief engine warm-up period, move CHOKE LEVER rearward and move the engine THROTTLE CONTROL to the rear to the desired speed setting. Refer to DETHATCHING/ SLICING section.

STEP 6:
To stop the engine, pull the engine THROTTLE CONTROL to the rear to “STOP”.

HANDLE BAR ADJUSTMENT

Loosen knobs on each side of HANDLE BAR. Adjust HANDLE BAR “UP” or “DOWN” as desired. Retighten Knobs. See Figure 6.

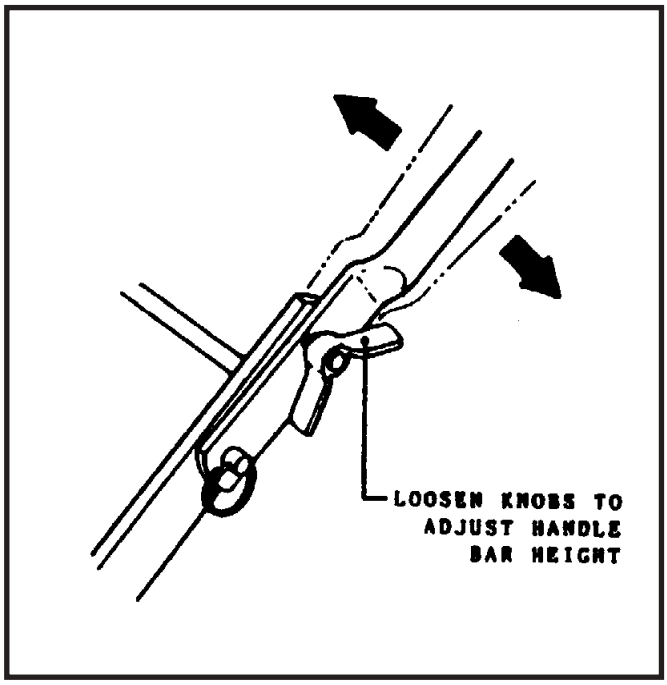


Figure 6

TRANSPORTING TO SITE

To avoid damage to the machine, lawn or pavement, always move HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT LEVER to “TRANSPORT” position when moving from one location to another. Refer to Figure 4. Also, when transporting, the machine is more easily steered when tilted backwards onto its rear wheels.

DETHATCHING PROCEDURE

The DETHATCHER/SLICER SHOULD NOT BE PULLED BACKWARDS! If an area must be gone over again, turn the machine around.

NOTE

*Do not use this machine on wet or water soaked lawns. This will pull turf off the surface of the lawn, particularly in rough or bumpy areas.

*Before using your machine, inspect the lawn and remove all sticks, stones, wire and any foreign objects that are likely to damage the machine.

*Do not use machine in tall grass. You receive a better job when raking after a recent mowing.

*Do not let the DETHATCHER set in one spot without having the clutch disengaged. Failure to do this will cause the unit to dig up turf.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. SET HANDLE BAR in desired position before engaging CLUTCH CONTROL.

2. SET HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT LEVER to desired raking height.

3. SET SPEED by moving THROTTLE CONTROL to desired speed setting.

4. BEGIN dethatching by stepping behind DETHATCHER, lifting "UP" on CLUTCH CONTROL BAIL and pushing machine forward.

5. TO MAKE SHARP TURNS, release CLUTCH CONTROL BAIL and tilt machine back on its rear wheels.

DETHATCHER DEPTH ADJUSTMENT

Normal Depth Adjustment on the DETHATCHER is accomplished by placing the machine on a hard surface, making sure one of the satellite shafts is at dead bottom, and adjusting the wheels so that the fingers are just touching the ground. (IMPORTANT: DO NOT set the fingers so that they will penetrate the ground. This will counteract the centrifugal force of the fingers and prevent them from doing a proper dethatching job).

Through constant use, the raking edges of the fingers will begin to wear. When this occurs, remove the end plates and turn the entire Shaft Assembly, end-for-end and replace it in the machine. This will give the fingers a new square raking edge. See Figure 7.

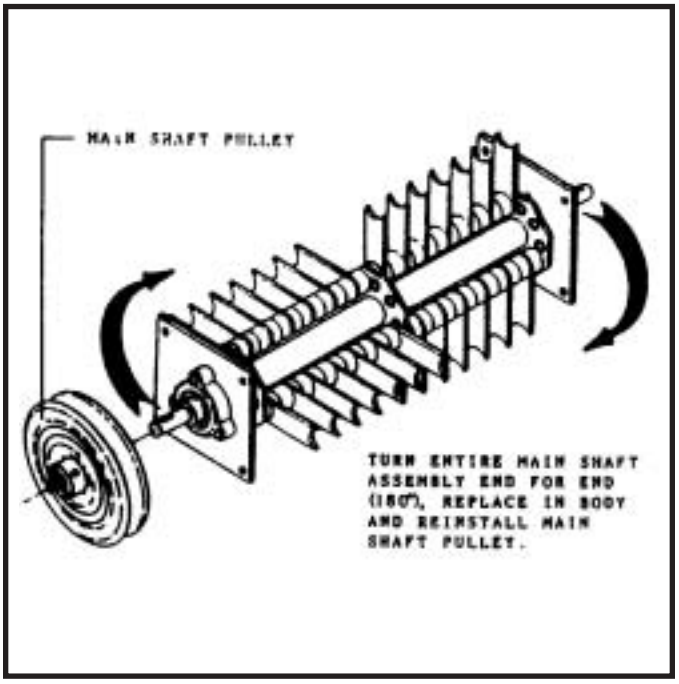


Figure 7

Extra holes in the Main Shaft are provided for longer life of the Main Shaft. If the hole holding the satellite shaft becomes distorted, rotate <u>all four</u> (4) satellite shafts to the next adjacent hole. See Figure 8.

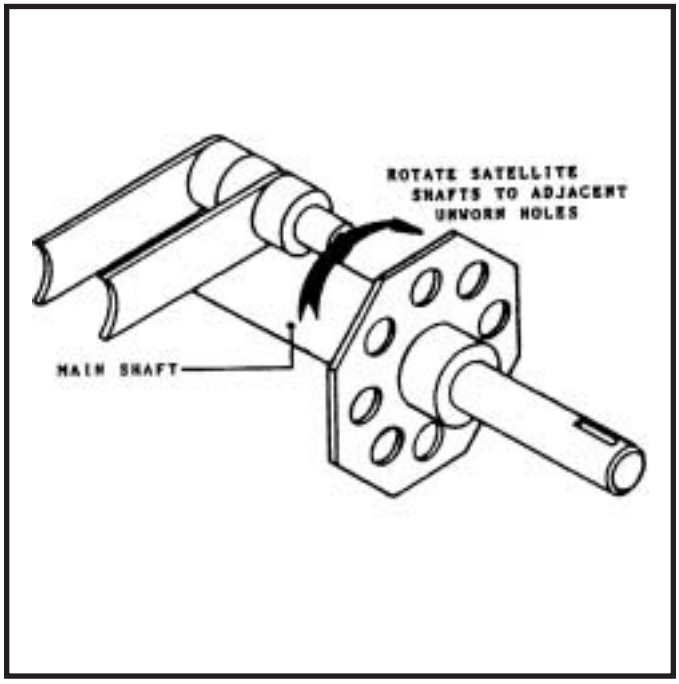


Figure 8

SLICING PROCEDURE

The following text gives instructions for making depth adjustments on the SLICER. For machine operation, see "DETHATCHING PROCEDURE" in preceding column.

SLICER DEPTH ADJUSTMENT

Normal depth setting for proper blade penetration for slicing and aerating is approximately 1/2" to 3/4" into the ground. To obtain the proper setting, place the machine on the lawn surface and adjust the wheel height one to two notches.

For the crawling type grasses such as Bermuda, Zoysia, Bahia, St. Augustine, etc., the setting is obtained in the same manner, except the wheels are raised only one notch.

For single strand grasses such as Bluegrass and Rye grass, it is best to slice in two separate directions, perpendicular to each other. For example, when slicing the first time, direction of travel is north and south. Then it is best to slice again in a east-west direction. (IMPORTANT: It is necessary to water thoroughly after the aerating process is complete. Fertilizer and seed, if desired, can be applied after slicing).

As the blades wear, they may be rotated four times to give new cutting edges each time. See Figure 9.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

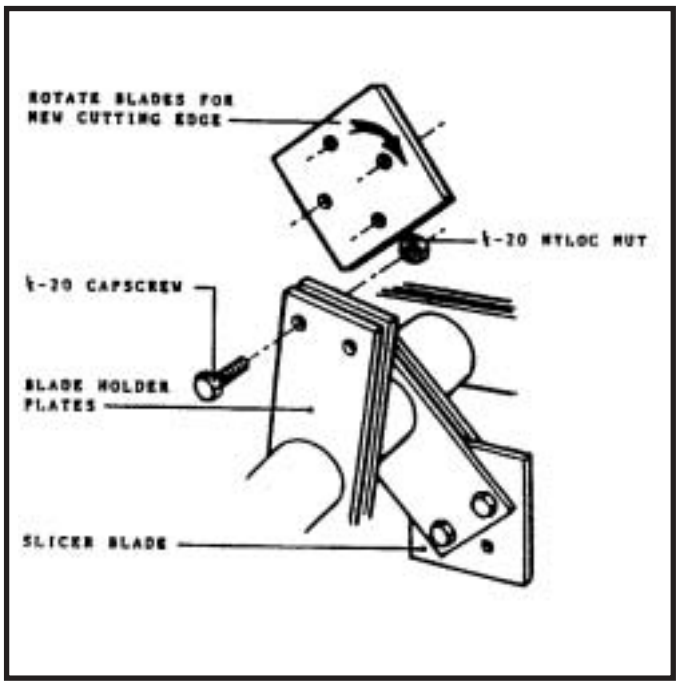


Figure 9

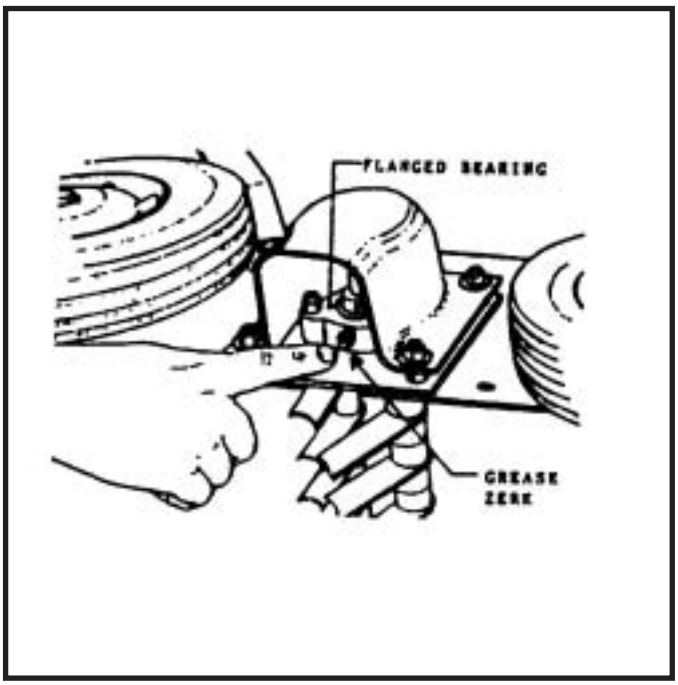


Figure 10

SERVICE PARTS & ASSISTANCE

To retain the original quality of your DETHATCHER/SLICER, use only genuine Yazoo/Kees replacement parts. Specify the model and serial number as found on the nameplate of your machine when contacting your Yazoo/Kees Dealer for parts or service assistance.

Your Yazoo/Kees Dealer has a complete listing of all components. For engine parts, look for the engine manufacturer's dealers under the heading ENGINES - gasoline in the yellow pages of your telephone directory.

DETHATCHER/SLICER LUBRICATION

CRANKSHAFT ASSEMBLY: Lubricate each ENDCAP BEARING with 2 shots of grease every 8 operating hours and before running if unit has been unused for a long period of time. See Figure 10.

WHEELS: DETHATCHER/SLICER

Lubricate each wheel with 1 shot of grease every 8 operating hours. See Figure 11

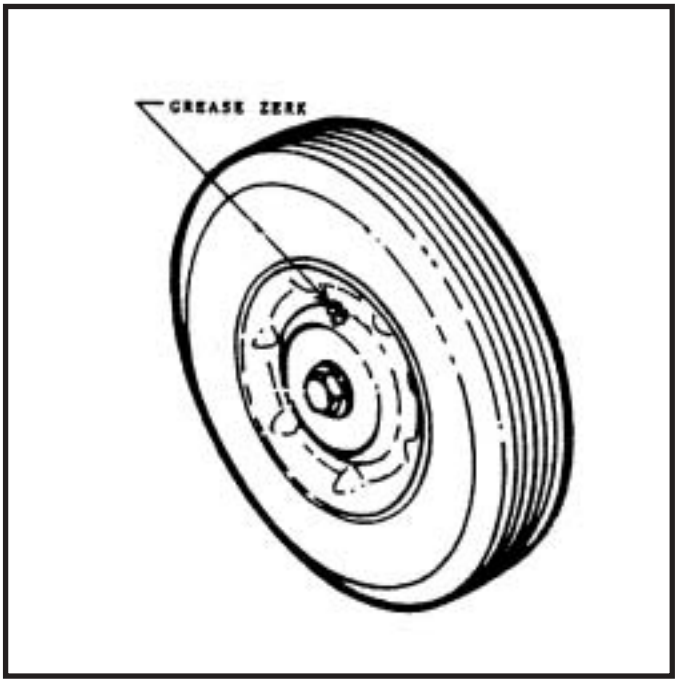


Figure 11

MOVING PARTS: (ALL MACHINES)

1. Lubricate HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT LEVER and related parts monthly (or more often if required) with oil.
2. SATELLITE oil to assure free movement of FINGERS.

SERVICE

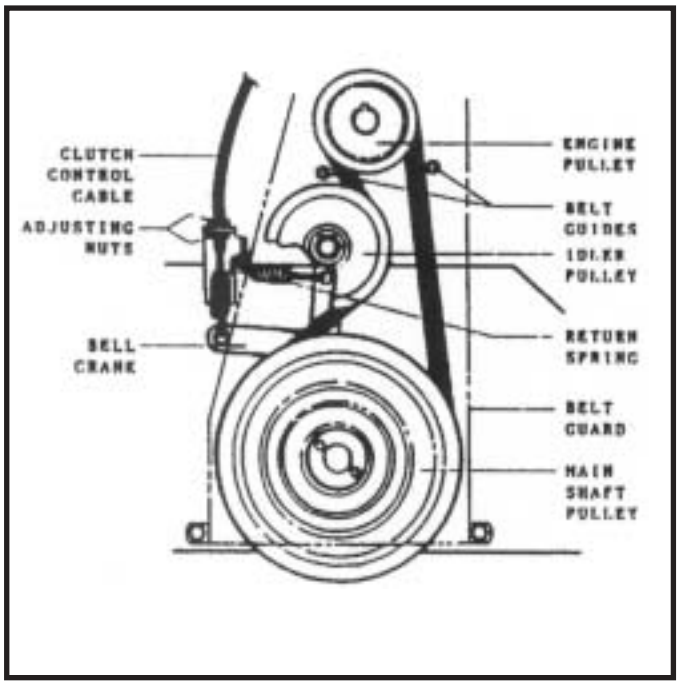


Figure 12

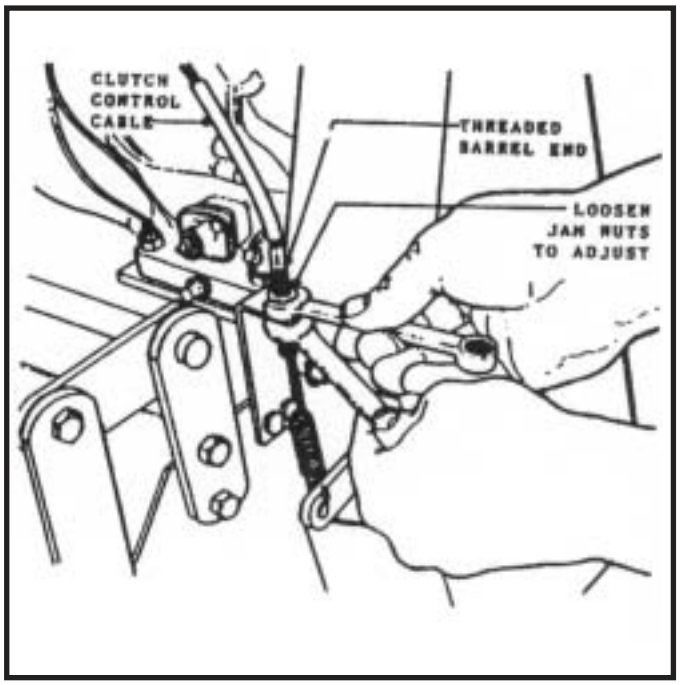


Figure 13

2. Lubricate SATELLITE SHAFTS on DETHATCHER with CLUTCH CONTROL CABLE

Lubricate CABLE with oil, graphite or a penetrating-type spray lubricant as required.

BELT/CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT

Position of Bail when CLUTCH engages, is adjusted by loosening jam nuts on threaded barrel end of CLUTCH CONTROL CABLE, turning jam nuts to desired position, then tightening in new position. See Figure 13.

CAUTION:

NEVER ADJUST MACHINE WITH ENGINE RUNNING

OFF SEASON STORAGE

Thoroughly clean all external surfaces, Shaft Assembly (including Fingers or Slicers) and underside of unit before storing the unit. Grease all fittings and lubricate all wear surfaces with oil.

1. Drain gasoline from fuel system and drain the crankcase oil (Refer to Engine Manual for details).

2. At the start of the new season, replenish engine crankcase oil and add gasoline to the fuel tank.

3. Before starting, move the ENGINE CONTROL to "STOP" and pull Rope Starter slowly several times. If excessive resistance is felt, remove the spark plug and pull Rope Starter rapidly to spin the engine and clear oil from the cylinder. Clean and reinstall the spark plug before attempting to start the engine.

Yazoo/Kees Limited Two Year Warranty

1. **This Limited two-year Warranty is issued by Yazoo/Kees Power Equipment, only to the original purchaser. The warranty period is limited to ninety (90) days when product is or has been used for rental purposes.**

2. **Yazoo/Kees warrants that all new equipment manufactured by Yazoo/Kees (Yazoo/Kees Products), listed in paragraph 9 hereof, shall be free of defects in material and workmanship for the term described in paragraph 4 below. Component parts, equipment, and accessories not manufactured by Yazoo/Kees are not warranted hereunder, but are warranted by the original manufacturer only to the extent of any original manufacturer's warranty, with the exception of the following; five years on wheel motors, ninety days on belts, hoses, tires, and battery, one year on electrical components, and one year on Peerless model 700 transmissions (first ninety days warranted by Peerless, remainder by Yazoo/Kees).**

3. **In the event that any Yazoo/Kees Product warranted hereunder shall be defective or fail to conform with this limited warranty, Yazoo/Kees shall, subject to the provisions hereof, pay for, or provide labor and materials for, the repair or replacement of such defective Yazoo/Kees Product.**

4. **This limited warranty is for two years (24 months) from purchase date for Yazoo/Kees Products.**

5. **To obtain limited warranty service on a Yazoo/Kees Product use this procedure:**

   a. **Locate the nearest Yazoo/Kees dealer or distributor.**
   b. **If you have moved, notify any Yazoo/Kees dealer or distributor in your area. You must be able to confirm purchase date to validate your warranty.**
   c. **Make arrangements to have the equipment delivered to the dealer or distributor (refer to paragraph 6a).**
   d. **If you have questions concerning the Yazoo/Kees Limited Warranty, they should be referred to :**
      Yazoo/Kees Power Equipment
      P.O. Box 8
      700 Park Street
      Beatrice, NE 68310
      Attention: Customer Service Department
      (402) 223-2391
   e. **Warranty service on Yazoo/Kees Products must be performed by an authorized Yazoo/Kees dealer.**

6. **This limited warranty does not cover the following:**
   a. **Transportation to and from the Yazoo/Kees dealer or distributor.**

b. **Normal maintenance services and normal maintenance items such as brakes, brake shoes, spark plugs, oil, air filters, mower blades, gauge wheels, skids and other wear items.**

c. **Any Yazoo/Kees Product which had been altered or modified in any way.**

d. **Any repair or replacement caused by customer neglect or lack of maintenance. (The purchaser is responsible for making sure that Yazoo/Kees Products are operated and serviced as directed in the applicable manual or service instruction. Incorrect use or maintenance will void this Limited Warranty.**

7. **YAZOO/KEES MAKES NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, OR WARRANTIES AS TO THE MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. ALL WARRANTIES ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE TERMS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 4, ABOVE. YAZOO/KEES SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE BREACH OF ANY WARRANTY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LIABILITY FOR INCONVENIENCE, RENTAL OR PURCHASES OF REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT, OR FOR LOSS OF PROFITS OR OTHER COMMERCIAL LOSS. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW A LIMITATION ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, SO THE ABOVE STATEMENT MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION OR EXCLUSION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.**

8. **This warranty is not subject to change or modification by anyone, including Yazoo/Kees dealers or distributors, and no Yazoo/Kees dealer or distributor is authorized to make any representations on behalf of Yazoo/Kees Power Equipment.**

Note: This Warranty is for the following machines or products:

- *ZTMax Midmount Riding Mowers*
- *Kutter Midsize Walk-behind Rotary Mowers*
- *Power Rake Dethatchers*
- *Power Slicer Aerators*
- *Core Plugger Aerators*
- *Classic High-wheel Walk-behind Rotary Mowers*

YAZOO KEES